

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 14-26 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claim 14 is amended and claims 23-27 are added. Reconsideration in view of the above amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

A. The Office Action rejects claims 14-20 and 22 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) over U.S. Patent No. 5,757,922 to Shiroshita. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

With respect to claim 14, Applicant respectfully submits that Shiroshita fails to disclose features recited therein as required under §102. For example, Shiroshita fails to disclose at least features of an electronic information file that is divided into a plurality of information elements, wherein the divided information elements are selected and combined with their order changed to produce two or more information blocks that each contain two or more of the information elements, wherein when all of the information blocks are not integrated, then all of the information elements are not included and combinations thereof as recited.

In contrast, Shiroshita discloses a conventional data transfer scheme that scrambles all electronic elements within the original document and then divides them into groups. See Figure 1 and column 1, lines 31-column 2, line 59 of Shiroshita. Such conventional schemes take significantly more processing than embodiments of the present invention that can divide an electronic information file into information elements, select and combine multiple information elements to information blocks and change an order of the information elements within the information blocks.

Also in contrast to claim 14, Shiroshita discloses embodiments that divide an original information file and deliver each divided element into each packet separately. Then, the packets are scrambled to change order. Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that embodiments in Shiroshita disclose that the order of elements in the packets does not differ. See column 5, lines 59-67, column 6, lines 11-19 and Figures 6-7 of Shiroshita. Accordingly, Shiroshita's embodiments do not distinguish between at least features of information elements and information blocks and combinations thereof as recited in claim 14.

In addition, Applicant respectfully submits that Shiroshita fails to disclose at least features of at least one of said information blocks and the division extraction data that were separated is transmitted to and stored into a certification station while the others are stored or transmitted separately and combinations thereof as recited in claim 14. Applicant respectfully submits that Shiroshita fails to disclose or suggest to use such a certification station or bureau for safety of data or information. See page 40, line 1-page 42, line 13 and Figure 11 of the present specification.

Further, Applicant respectfully submits that Shiroshita does not teach or suggest any modification to its disclosure that would result in at least features of an electronic information file that is divided into a plurality of information elements wherein the divided information elements are selected and combined with their order changed to produce two or more information blocks that each contain two or more of the information elements, and at least one

of said information blocks and the division extraction data that were separated is transmitted to and stored into a certification station and combinations thereof as recited in claim 1.

With respect to claim 18, Applicant respectfully submits that Shiroshita does not teach or suggest features of index information elements and combinations thereof as recited.

For at least the reasons set forth above, Applicant respectfully submits claim 14 defines patentable subject matter. Claims 15-20 and 22 depend from claim 14 and therefore also define patentable subject matter for at least that reason as well as their additionally recited features. Withdrawal of the rejection of claims 14-20 and 22 under §102 is respectfully requested.

B. The Office Action rejects claim 21 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Shiroshita and U.S. Patent No. 5,903,734 to Chida. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

As described above, claim 14 defines patentable subject matter over Shiroshita. Applicant respectfully submits that Chida does not teach or suggest at least features of an electronic information file that is divided into a plurality of information elements, wherein the divided information elements are selected and combined with their order changed to produce two or more information blocks that each contain two or more of the information elements, at least one of said information blocks and the division extraction data that were separated and transmitted to and stored into a certification station and combinations thereof as recited. Thus, Applicant respectfully submits that Shiroshita and Chida, individually or in combination, would not result in at least features of a security assurance method and combinations thereof as recited in claim 14. Claim 21 depends from claim 14 and therefore also defines patentable subject

Serial No. 09/889,160
Reply to Office Action of January 19, 2005

Docket No. SEKI-0005

matter for at least that reason as well as its additionally recited features. Withdrawal of the rejection of claim 21 under §103 is respectfully requested.

C. Claims 23-27 are newly added by this Amendment and believed to be in condition for allowance.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration and prompt allowance are earnestly solicited.

If the Examiner believes that any additional changes would place the application in better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney, **Carl R. Wesolowski**, at the telephone number listed below.

Serial No. 09/889,160
Reply to Office Action of January 19, 2005

Docket No. SEKI-0005

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this, concurrent and future replies, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 16-0607 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,
FLESHNER & KIM, LLP



Carl R. Wesolowski
Registration No. 40,372

P.O. Box 221200
Chantilly, Virginia 20153-1200
(703) 766-3701 CRW:jld
Date: April 19, 2005

Please direct all correspondence to Customer Number 34610